(Wm.)

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Boston, Oct. 16, 1875.

Capt. Bartlett:

Dear Sir — I am much obliged to you for your courtesy and attention in apprising me that the old "Newburyport Artillery Company," now Company "A." of the Eighth Regiment Infantry M. V. M., are to celebrate the One Hundredth year of their organization on the 21st inst.; and for the cadial invitation extended to me, in behalf of the Company, to be present on the occasion.

I think it must have been in 1826 that I enrolled myself as a member of the Company, as in 1827 I was a resident of Boston, and only once did I appear at a muster. For more than forty years I have been an avowed and earnest advocate of the cause of Peace, and, consequently, opposed to all war, and all preparations for war. The change in my youthful views on this subject has been radical, and as a matter of conscience.

Under these circumstances, it would be neither proper nor consistent for me to join in any military celebration whatever; but I am none the less obliged to you and the Company for the invitation referred to, as it evinces a fraternal spirit, and was evidently made in ignorance of the sentiments by which I have been so long governed.

Yours for the reign of universal peace,

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

P. S. I do not write this for publicity.

Capt. E. F. Bartlett,

Of Company "A." of the Eighth Regiment Infantry,

Newburyport

Mass.

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